SAMUEL BRONSTON'S

EL CID...the man

Statue of El Cid in New York City

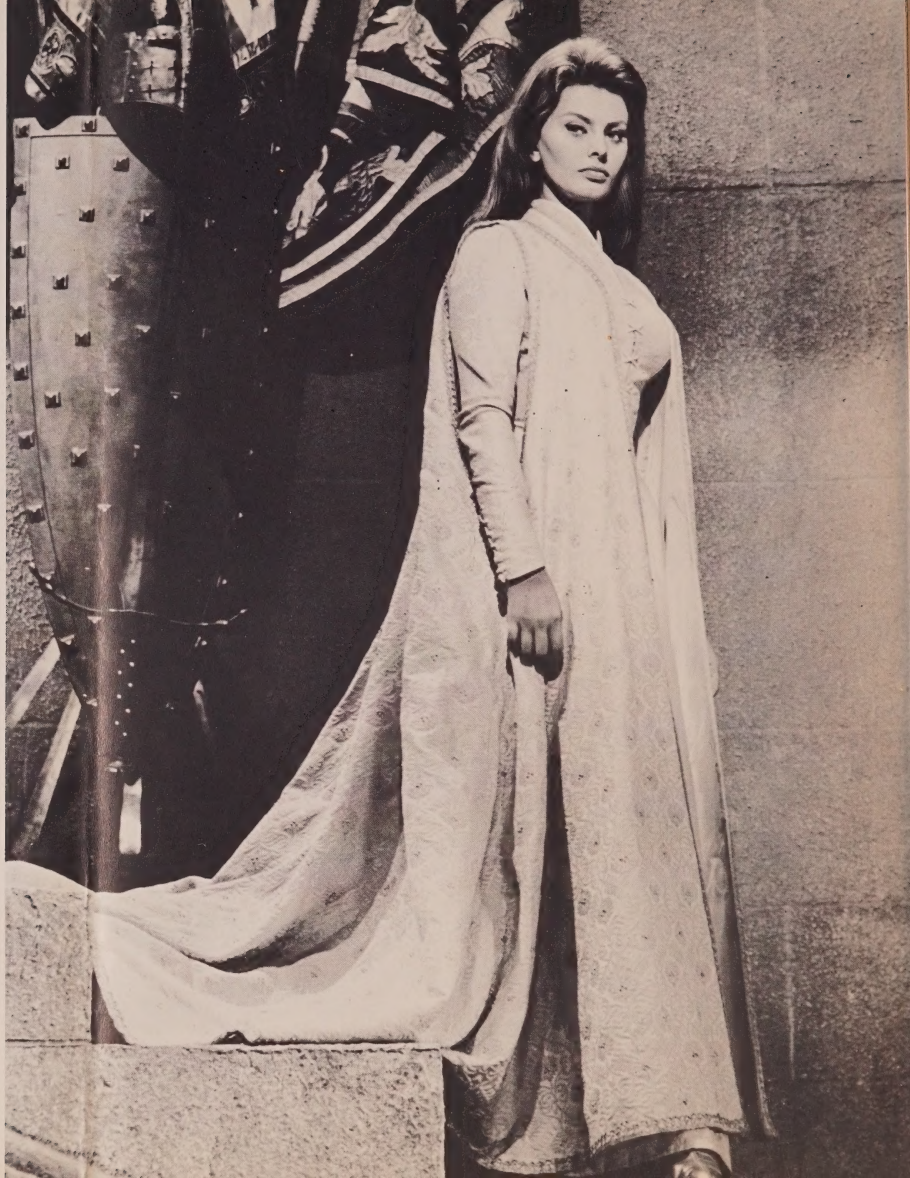
Spain in the Eleventh Century, not yet a unified nation—its southern half dominated by the Moors from Africa, its north a battleground ravaged by the ceaseless strife of feudal rulers. While the Spanish kings destroyed each other, the Almoravides, most savage and fanatic of all Moslem tribes, swept north across the Mediterranean into Spain on a path of conquest that threatened to overrun Europe.

The times cried for an inspiring leader, and he appeared in the person of a daring Castilian knight, Rodrigo Diaz de Bivar, whose destiny it was to create a nation and defend Christendom from engulfment. His fearless deeds won from the Moors the name of "Seid," which means Lord or Leader. His countrymen adapted the title to their own tongue—Cid. And they added Campeador (Champion), an honor he had won in single combat. El Cid Campeador! He rides forever as one of the world's great heroes.

Shortly after his death, he was immortalized in one of the greatest of all epic poems—"The Poem of El Cid." He inspired Corneille's masterpiece of the stage, "Le Cid," which Massenet turned into an opera. Famed statues of him stand in Burgos, Spain; New York City, San Diego, California, and in countless cities throughout the Spanish speaking world. Yet, until now, the epic motion picture of his life remained to be made. Producer Samuel Bronston, therefore, brings to the screen a shining new hero whose story belongs to the ages.

It has been written of El Cid that there were two loves in his life, the fiery Castilian beauty, Dona Chimene, and the city of Valencia. Chimene became his wife and shared his tumultuous adventures. Valencia fell to him, too, and became the key to his defense of Spain. Both are high points of the epic motion picture.

CHARLTON
HESTON



SOPHIA
LOREN

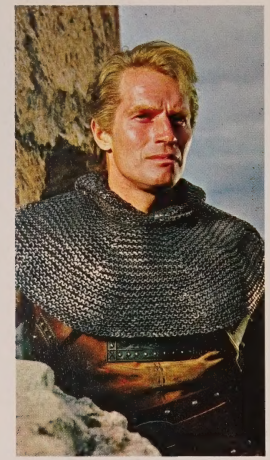
EL CID...the stars

A motion picture possessing the powerful dramatic story and vast proportions of "El Cid" demanded stars of equal stature. For producer Samuel Bronston and director Anthony Mann a single name stood forth as the one man who could portray the great warrior hero. It was rugged, talented Charlton Heston. Deeply impressed with the possibilities offered by the character of El Cid and the unprecedented plans for the production, Heston went to Spain two months in advance of filming to prepare for the arduous part.

The role of the lovely Chimene, whose fire matches that of El Cid, called for a star of great beauty, brilliant artistry and Latin spirit, a description that fits Sophia Loren perfectly. She, too, was fascinated by the exciting story and by the romantic lady she would portray.

Thus, the winner of the Academy Award for his performance in "Ben Hur," and the winner of the Cannes Film Festival Golden Palm award for Best Actress, were brought together for the first time on the screen, a memorable teaming.

Complementing the inspired casting of Heston and Loren, a truly distinguished international cast of stars was signed, including Raf Vallone, Genevieve Page, John Fraser, Gary Raymond, Hurd Hatfield, Massimo Serato and Herbert Lom.



EL CID...the production

It was in 1958 before he became immersed in the filming of "King of Kings" that Samuel Bronston first envisioned the soaring challenge of the story of El Cid. As a moviemaker, he saw beyond the romance and adventure a powerful saga of a man's struggle for justice and peace. Academy Award-winners Philip Yordan, creative head of the Bronston story department, and Fredric M. Frank started developing the huge dramatic canvas into screenplay form. Director Anthony Mann began plotting out his monumental production. Mann traveled for months over 3500 miles of back-country roads to locate the real-life backgrounds where El Cid actually lived, loved and fought.

Meanwhile, producer Bronston had taken over Madrid's three big studios—Chamartin, Sevilla and Cea. One of the largest single exterior sets ever built in Europe was rising at the Sevilla lot. Discouraged from using the real Cathedral at Burgos because of its latter day modifications, Bronston had ordered construction of a replica as it looked in El Cid's time.

Art directors Veniero Colasanti and John Moore were assigned to design authentic costumes, armament and settings that would match the grandeur of the picture's natural backgrounds. In researching the period of El Cid they traveled to Burgos and to famed Escorial, burial place of the Kings of Spain, archive of many treasures of antiquity.

10,000 new costumes were created for "El Cid" including 700 dazzling garments of rich brocades and velvets made for the leading players by the Italian firm of Peruzzi and Cerratilli. 2000 costumes were assigned to Casa Conejo, which farmed out the work to the entire female population of three villages near Madrid.

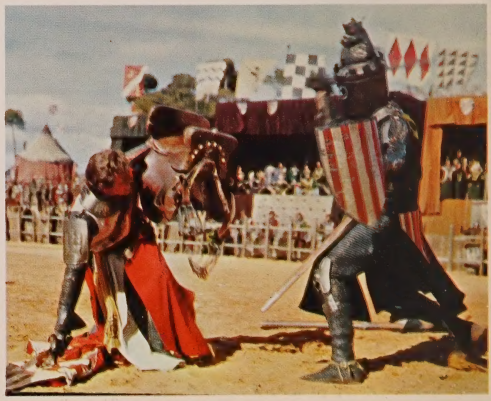
The Garrido Brothers' foundry of Toledo, famous for two centuries for its highly-tempered steel products, was entrusted with the manufacture of broad-swords, maces, scimitars and battle-axes to arm the film's 7000 Christian knights and Moorish warriors.

More than $40,000 was budgeted to the craftsmen of Italy and Spain for jeweled crowns, rings and scepters. $150,000 was spent for reproduction of medieval art objects, candelabra, tapestries and such diverse items as a royal death mask and an exquisitely-carved crucifix.

At the studio shooting began with an intimate scene between El Cid and Chimene played in the presence of 38 international press representatives. They hailed the teaming of Charlton Heston and Sophia Loren.

After eight weeks of filming in Madrid, director Anthony Mann began moving his company northward into the Guadarrama mountains, then west into the "castle country" of Valladolid, south to the ancient walled city of Peniscola, and finally to Belmonte in the historic province of La Mancha, stamping ground of Don Quixote.

Thirty-six hours after the cameras stopped shooting at Belmonte, filming was resumed 1100 miles away in Rome. After the final scenes were enacted, members of the great international company scattered over the globe. Nearly 900 years after El Cid rode in triumph, Samuel Bronston, Anthony Mann, Philip Yordan and their associates were ready to bring his epic portrait to the world.



EL CID...the Tournament of Calahorra

For eleven breathtaking minutes the screen rocks with the clash of steel and flesh in a sequence which veteran viewers declare will stand with the unforgettable scenes in cinema annals—the chariot race in "Ben Hur," the crossing of the Red Sea in "Ten Commandments," the burning of Atlanta in "Gone with the Wind."

Charlton Heston as the Champion of the King of Castile meets Don Martin, giant Champion of the King of Aragon, in mortal combat to decide which monarch shall rule the city of Calahorra.

For weeks Heston and Britain's Sir Christopher Rhodes, who played his huge opponent, went through rigorous training sessions with broad-sword, mace, lance and other weapons under the watchful eyes of one of Europe's most famous fencing masters. There were daily horseback workouts guided by the commander of Madrid's celebrated Municipal Honor Guard.

To provide a fabulous backdrop for the tense scene, the castle of Belmonte, one of Spain's most striking symbols of medieval grandeur, was selected. Before it, the full panoply of 11th Century heraldry—bright banners, colorful tents, knights in armor, ladies in brocades and velvets—was arrayed on all sides of the block-long jousting field, where the life-and-death contest was staged.

It is notable that this towering sequence does not climax the picture, but is an early link in the progression of historic adventure that makes "El Cid" outstanding.

EL CID...the heroic romance

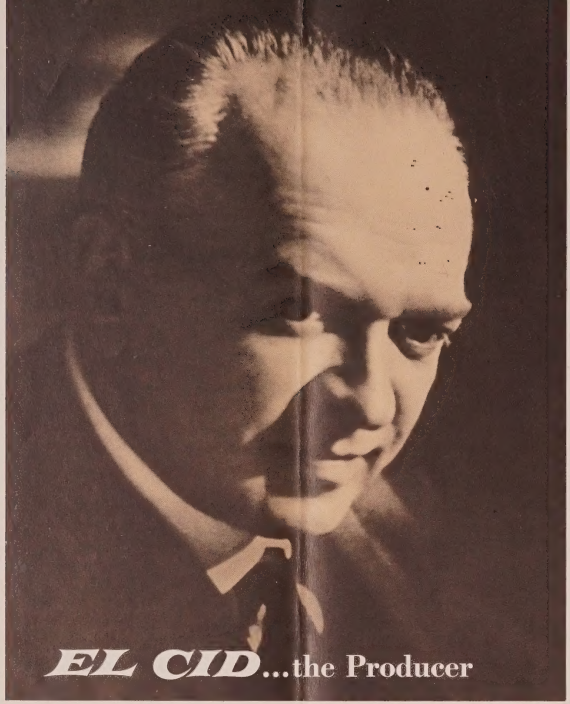
The love story of El Cid and his Chimene has been acclaimed as one of history's most stirring real-life romances, for, in its background of feuds and intrigues are found overtones of Shakespearean drama.

Here is the fervent devotion of two lovers crashing on the jagged rocks of a deadly quarrel between their families. To clear his family honor the young El Cid is obliged to meet Chimene's father, a noted warrior, in a duel and unavoidably slays him. The anguished girl swears a vow of undying hatred and even joins in an unsuccessful plan to assassinate the man she once adored.

Even though El Cid learns of Chimene's part in the attempt to kill him, he still wishes to marry her and asks the king to order the wedding. Chimene accepts the king's command, but remains cold and uncommunicative during the ceremony and on the bridal night tells El Cid that her marriage to him will become her means of revenge.

It is only later on, when El Cid has been unjustly accused of disloyalty and banished into exile, that Chimene, abandoning herself to her heart, joins him as a true wife.

She shares his hardships and his triumphs, and is at his side during the siege and conquest of Valencia. History chronicles that years later Chimene, herself, ruled the city.



EL CID...the Producer

SAMUEL BRONSTON

He is an independent who has recaptured the pioneer spirit of the men who built the motion picture industry. Samuel Bronston is the first producer ever to present two roadshow film attractions simultaneously in the cities of the world. They are "El Cid" and "King of Kings."

A dynamic worker with a sensitive creative mind, Bronston is a graduate of Sorbonne University in Paris. His first affiliation with motion pictures was in the distribution field in Europe. Coming to Hollywood, he put in a number of years as a producer for major companies, bringing to the screen such films as "A Walk In The Sun" and "Jack London." However, Bronston thirsted for complete artistic freedom and he determined to build an organization entirely his own. He formed his company in Madrid with the concept of bringing together imaginative film makers from both sides of the Atlantic and sharing with them the ideals of integrity, quality and good taste.

Now Bronston's activities occupy most of the two largest studios in Spain, Chamartin and Sevilla, with headquarters in the former. The filming of "El Cid" overflowed into a third studio, as well as filling two gigantic warehouses with thousands of costumes and properties. Bronston's operations have made Madrid a leading film capital.

EL CID...the Director

ANTHONY MANN

Creative co-partner in "El Cid" from its very inception, Anthony Mann is noted in Hollywood for his ability to bring an atmosphere of human immediacy to even the biggest films. He has helmed such hits as "Strategic Air Command," "The Glenn Miller Story" and "Winchester 73."

SAMUEL BRONSTON

PRESENTS

THE CAST

El Cid	**Charlton Heston**
Chimene	**Sophia Loren**
Count Ordonez	**Raf Vallone**
Princess Urraca	**Genevieve Page**
Prince Alfonso	**John Fraser**
Prince Sancho	**Gary Raymond**
Arias	**Hurd Hatfield**
Fanez	**Massimo Serato**
Ben Yussuf	**Herbert Lom**
Al Kadir	**Frank Thring**
Moutamin	**Douglas Wilmer**
Don Diego	**Michael Hordern**
Count Gormaz	**Andrew Cruickshank**
Don Pedro	**Tullio Carminati**
King Ferdinand	**Ralph Truman**
Don Martin	**Christopher Rhodes**
King Ramiro	**Gerard Tichy**
Bermudez	**Carlo Giustini**

THE PRODUCTION

Produced by	**Samuel Bronston**
Directed by	**Anthony Mann**
Associate Producers	**Jaime Prades, Michael Waszynski**
Screenplay by	**Fredric M. Frank and Philip Yordan**
Music by	**Miklos Rozsa**
Director of Photography	**Robert Krasker**
Production & Costume Designers, Set Decorators	**Veniero Colasanti and John Moore**
Film Editor	**Robert Lawrence**
Director of Photography, 2nd Unit	**Manuel Berenguer**
Special Effects	**Alex Weldon, Jack Erickson**
2nd Unit Director	**Yakima Canutt**
Production Managers	**Leon Chooluck, Guy Luongo**
Assistant Directors	**Luciano Sacripanti, Jose Maria Ochoa, Jose Lopez Rodero**
Master of Properties	**Stanley Detlie**
Supervising Technician	**Carl Gibson**
Supervising Electrician	**Norton Kurland**
Sound Recordist	**Jack Solomon**
Re-Recorded by	**Gordon K. McCallum**
Sound Editor	**Verna Fields**
Music Editor	**Edna Bulluck**
Wardrobe Director	**Gloria Mussetta**
Hair Styles by	**Grazia de Rossi**
Makeup Created by	**Mario van Riel**
Murals by	**Maciek Piotrowski**
Script Supervisor	**Pat Miller**

70mm SUPER TECHNIRAMA-TECHNICOLOR®

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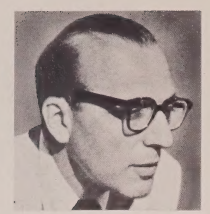
distributed by ALLIED ARTISTS

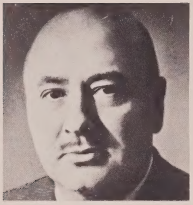
Running Time 3 Hours and 4 Minutes

EL CID... the creative talent



PHILIP YORDAN

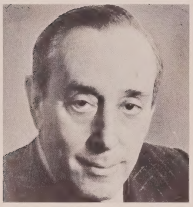
Academy Award-winning writer, as well as a screen producer and Broadway playwright, he was a principal creative factor in "El Cid" from its inception. Brilliant scripter of "King Of Kings," his credits include "Men In War," "God's Little Acre" and "Anna Lucasta." Yordan wrote the screenplay of "El Cid" with Academy Award-winner FREDRIC M. FRANK.



JAIME PRADES

Associate Producer

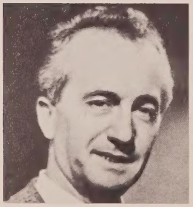
A native of Uruguay, he has pioneered film production in virtually every Spanish-speaking country. Vice-president of Samuel Bronston Productions, Prades is not only an expert on all phases of production, but is a specialist in global distribution. He was an associate producer on "King Of Kings."



MICHAEL WASZYNSKI

Associate Producer

A native of Poland, as a director and producer he made 42 films, including the classic "The Dybuk" before World War II. He has since been associated with such outstanding pictures as "Roman Holiday," "Quo Vadis" and "The Barefoot Contessa." Waszynski worked closely with director Mann throughout "El Cid."



ROBERT KRASKER

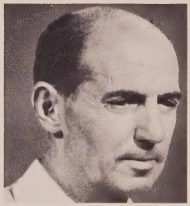
Cinematographer

Academy Award-winner for "The Third Man," he is noted for the unique techniques with color and lighting which have stamped his efforts. Australian-born Krasker's camera work has been lauded in such successes as "Henry V," "Trapeze," "Romeo and Juliet" and "Odd Man Out."

MIKLOS ROZSA

Composer

Distinguished composer of three Academy Award-winning scores including "Ben Hur," Hungarian-born Dr. Rozsa is acclaimed as one of the truly great musicians of our times. In addition to his many cinema achievements he has conducted and composed for philharmonic and symphony orchestras around the world. His work on "El Cid" followed the scoring of "King Of Kings."



ROBERT LAWRENCE

Film Editor

For the past 12 years he has been known as one of Hollywood's most sensitive film editors. He has worked on productions of the greatest magnitude, among which are "Giant" and "The Greatest Show On Earth." Lawrence was an Academy Award nominee for "Spartacus."

VENIERO COLASANTI and JOHN MOORE

Art Directors

Designers of all the settings and costumes for "El Cid," the work of this Italian-American team is famed throughout Europe. They have amassed such imposing credits as "Trapeze" and "A Farewell To Arms" as well as many opera productions in Rome and Milan. They recently won a Venice Film Festival award for art direction.

CHARLTON HESTON
and
SOPHIA LOREN
in SAMUEL BRONSTON'S
EL CID

also starring
RAF VALLONE · GENEVIEVE PAGE
co-starring JOHN FRASER · GARY RAYMOND · HURD HATFIELD
MASSIMO SERATO and HERBERT LOM
music by MIKLOS ROZSA · written by FREDRIC M. FRANK and PHILIP YORDAN
directed by
ANTHONY MANN

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